



## *California Nurse Education Initiative*

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*“Nurses are people of compassion and courage. Their profession is a labor of love and without them we simply could not deliver quality care for patients. California is facing a severe nursing shortage and it is absolutely critical that we open up the nursing profession to everyone who has the passion and potential.”*

- Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
April 13, 2005

### **California’s Nursing Shortage**

- ➔ Right now, there are **14,000 vacancies** for registered nurses in California hospitals. That’s about 35 vacancies for every hospital.
- ➔ Our state’s nursing **schools are full** to capacity and have long waiting lists.
- ➔ About **40 percent** of the people who apply to California nursing schools have to be **turned away**.

To increase education opportunities for nurses and improve health care quality in California, the Governor has created the **California Nurse Education Initiative**, a five-year, \$90 million public-private partnership.

### **CA NURSE EDUCATION INITIATIVE**

**In addition to the \$13 million in grants** the Governor awarded to local workforce development organizations, educational institutions and community-based organizations earlier this year, this initiative provides **more classes, more teachers, and more resources to grow the ranks of nurses and improve the quality of health care** everywhere in our state.

#### ***Governor's Five-Point Plan:***

- 1. Provides \$90 million to expand and increase nurse education opportunities.**
- 2. Partners with schools and health facilities to build more education programs.**
- 3. Recruits more qualified instructors.**
- 4. Develops new avenues to nursing careers with high school and college nursing academies and apprenticeships.**
- 5. Seeks additional funds for nurse education from federal and other funding sources.**